

Arizona Balalaika Orchestra
with
RUSSIAN MASTERS in CONCERT



Alexander Tsygankov and **Inna Shevchenko**
Domra Piano

Featuring

Dr. Alexander Tentser, Conductor

Kalinka Russian Dancers

Richard Holden, Choreographer

Sons of Orpheus Male Choir

Grayson Hirst, Musical Director

Sat. Feb. 3, 2007 at 7:30 pm and Sun. Feb. 4, 2007 at 2:00 pm



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Program Notes

Welcome to the **Arizona Balalaika Orchestra's** 27th year! We are pleased to present **Russian Masters in Concert**, featuring the incomparable talents of **Alexander Tsygankov** and his wife of 32 years, **Inna Shevchenko**, who have traveled from Moscow to join our humble group for their first appearance at our annual winter concerts. We are delighted to have them, and know you will be amazed at their virtuosity!

Alexander Tsygankov was born in Omsk, Russia in 1948 and began his musical career with the mandolin. Later trained at the world-renowned Gnessin Institute of Music in Moscow, Mr. Tsygankov has become an artist of legendary talent on the three-stringed Russian **domra**. He performed for many years as the principal domra soloist with the famous Osipov Balalaika Orchestra of Moscow. In addition to performing throughout Russia, Ukraine, Europe, Japan and North America, Alexander "Sasha" Tsygankov is also a well-known composer and arranger of works for domra and orchestra, including the delightful "Two Step" and "Mar Dyandya" which you will hear today. He is the winner of numerous competitions over his illustrious career and has been awarded the prestigious "Distinguished Artist of Russia" honor. He is widely considered the finest domra player in the world, and it is our pleasure to present Sasha and Inna in our concert.

Inna Shevchenko, was raised in Ukraine, graduated in piano performance from the Russian Academy of Music in Moscow, and has been named "Best Accompanist" in several Russian competitions. She also performs the harp-like "gusli" in accompanying her husband and as an orchestra guest artist. In 2005 she was awarded the "Distinguished Artist of the Russian People" award. She has recorded many CD's with her husband and toured throughout the world. Indeed, Inna and Sasha leave later this month for a concert trip to Japan.

Once again we are pleased to have the musical directorship of our founder **Mia Bulgarin Gay**, also playing alto domra in today's concert. Mia has written orchestral arrangements for many of the pieces heard in this performance, including the cheerful classic "Kumushki." We are happy to perform once again under the gifted baton of our conductor **Dr. Alexander Tentser**. A native of Kiev, Ukraine, Dr. Tentser also studied at the Gnessin Institute in Moscow, majoring in piano performance, before immigrating to the United States. He earned his doctorate in music at the University of Arizona and is a Professor of Music at both Pima Community College, where he directs the Pima College Orchestra, and at the U of A. He is a frequent piano soloist in Tucson and with the Lake Placid Sinfonietta of New York.

The **Kalinka Russian Dancers** join us for the 18th year, under the direction of choreographer **Richard Holden**, who founded the group in 1989. After a distinguished career as a dancer and choreologist with the American Ballet Theater, the Metropolitan Opera, and the Joffrey Ballet, Richard "retired" to Tucson where he has continued to choreograph over 40 dances in Russian, Ukrainian, Polish and Gypsy styles, both for Kalinka Dancers, the Arizona Opera, and in other venues in Arizona and California.

No Arizona Balalaika Orchestra winter concert would be complete without the collaboration of the **Sons of Orpheus Male Choir of Tucson** under the direction of Julliard-trained **Grayson Hirst**, University of Arizona voice professor and renowned operatic tenor. The chorus sings a broad range of popular and classical works in many styles and languages, and has performed at the White House and in tours of Germany, Austria, Hungary, Italy and the United Kingdom. Their Spring Concert will be here in the PCC Proscenium Theater on March 31 and April 1, and they hope you will join them for the show!

Like many arts organizations, this Orchestra has survived and thrived over the years due to the volunteer efforts of its members and other people. We welcome any contribution you may wish to make in terms of time, money, or joining us as a performer! Please contact any Orchestra member if interested. Nowenjoy our **Russian Masters in Concert!**

Dan Nicolini, Executive Director

Please visit our website: www.azbalalaika.org

You can hear our music and see videos at: www.Richka.com, or see: www.bdaa.com for links to other groups

PROGRAM

Concerto for Domra and Orchestra
Alexander Tsygankov, domra

N. Budashkin

Two Step
Alexander Tsygankov, domra

A. Tsygankov, orch. S. Nikonova

Opus One

B. Tetlov, arr. S. Nikonova

Moscow Nights

Traditional

Sons of Orpheus

Metelitsa ("Snowstorm")

Traditional, arr. M. Gay

Sons of Orpheus, Christopher Hutchinson, tenor

Kumushki

orch. M. Gay, (after Aksentyev)

Dan Nicolini, balalaika

Vsyo Shto Bilo

Gypsy song

Nina Tritinenchenko, vocals

arr. L. Iudin-Nelson

Pava ("The Peacock")

Belorus folk dance

Kalinka Russian Dancers

GUEST ARTISTS (selections to be announced)

Alexander Tsygankov, domra, and Inna Shevchenko, piano

The Great Gate of Kiev

M. Mussorgsky, arr. S. Nikonova

INTERMISSION

Khorovodskaya Pliaska

Women's Round Dance

Kalinka Russian Dancers, Sons of Orpheus

arr. N. Sady

Oy, to ne Vecher

Russian Folk Song

Sons of Orpheus

arr. M. Gay, V. Gorodinsky

Kalinka

Traditional

Sons of Orpheus, A. Shelton, tenor

Ne Odna vo Pole Dorozhenka

arr. V. Gorodovskaya

Shepherd's Tune

arr. C. Rappaport

Kalinka Russian Dancers

Ochi Chorniye ("Dark Eyes")

arr. T. Kubota

Alexander Tsygankov, domra

orch. A. Tsygankov

Two Guitars

arr. T. Kubota.

Alexander Tsygankov, domra

orch. A. Tsygankov

Farewell, My Tabor

Gypsy song

Guy Velgos, vocals

arr. M. Gay

Katyusha

Traditional

"Boris and Ludmila" - Carly Greenan

The Country Tune

A. Melitonian

Mar Dyandya (Gypsy tune)

A. Tsygankov

Alexander Tsygankov, domra

orch. G. Mironov

Arizona Balalaika Orchestra

Prima Domra Roger Foreman Suzanne Langstroth Michael Markowitz Peggy Propper* Matthew Rolland Kathleen Schwartzman Natalie Sherrick* Alexander Tsygankov* Chris Wald-Hopkins	Bass Domra Joanne Dodd* Janet Major Robert Propper*	Bass Balalaika Anatoly Tsadikovsky*	Clarinet Carol Christofferson
Alto Domra Mia Gay Rosita Kirkman* Lulu Nicolosi Mark Rossi	Prima Balalaika Dan Nicolini Michael Sherrick*	Contrabass Balalaika Don Copler Tom Dose*	Flute Aileen Dyer-Bell
	Secunda Balalaika Richard Holden Guy Velgos	Bass Violin Jeff Holsen	Oboe Skyler Martin
	Alto Balalaika Augie Gustilo, Jr. Zeny Ocean*	Bayan/Accordion Agnes Sprunger Nina Trittenichenko	Percussion Ariana Nicolini Barbara Freischlab
		Gusli Olga Yakovenko Inna Shevchenko*	*denotes guest

Kalinka Russian Dancers

Raymon Cruz Christopher Garcia Kaylene Garcia	Lori Garcia Carly Greenan Nancy Hammarstrom	Mia Hansen Elizabeth Mikesell Laurie Starr Kathleen Schwartzman
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Sons of Orpheus

First Tenors Eugene Friesen Christopher Hutchinson Bob Kurtz Tom McGorray Bruce Mortensen James Naughton Matt Perri Adam Shelton James Tomlinson	Second Tenors B.J. Burmeister John Hayes Jim Henry Jim Hogan Richard Miller Larry Sayre Edwin Strain Karl Trader	Baritones Philippe Bodin Mike Bradley Chuck Dickson Leo DiCurti Peter DiCurti Art Dumes Dave Eschhofen John Evans Cameron Fordyce Michael Fraser Van Honeman	Ned Mackey Rick Sack Raymond Tess
			Basses Ivan Berger John Fountain Jeffery Handt Jack Pinnas Gary Smyth Tom Wentzel David Yetman

Credits

Stage Manager, Dance Captain and assistant to Mr. Holden: Mia Hansen

Stage crew: Raymon Cruz

Videographer: Howard Aldrich

Program design: Dan Nicolini, Evgueni Trittenichenko and Ariana Nicolini

Kalinka costumes created by Howard Aldrich, Mia Gay, Carly Greenan, and "Up With People"

Special thanks to Northwest Neighborhood Center and Ballet Arts for rehearsal space

This production was funded in part by a generous grant from the Tucson Pima Arts Council